



WATER SUPPLY STANDARDS

PLANNING & BUILDING DEPARTMENT • COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
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Section 116525(a) State of California Health and Safety Code (Safe Drinking Water Act) requires that no person shall operate a public water system unless he or she first submits an application to this Department and receives a permit.

Definition of a Public Water System: Public water system means a system for the provision of water for human consumption through pipes or other constructed conveyances that has 15 or more service connections or regularly serves at least 25 individuals daily at least 60 days out of the year.

Classifications of Water Systems

- I. Community Water System (Public):** Serves at least 15 service connections used by yearlong residents or regularly serves at least 25 yearlong residents. (Annual permit required)
- II. Nontransient-Noncommunity System (Public):** A public water system that is not a community water system and that regularly serves at least the same 25 persons over 6 months per year. (Annual permit required)
- III. Transient-Noncommunity Water System (Public):** Serves at least 25 nonresident individuals daily at least 60 days per year, but not more than 24 yearlong residents; or a system that serves 15 or more service connections and any number of non-resident individuals at least 60 days per year, but no yearlong residents. (Annual permit required)
- IV. State Small Water System (Public):** Serves from 5 to 14 service connections and less than 25 individuals any part of the year; or serves 15 or more service connections and any number of nonresident individuals less than 60 days per year. (Annual permit required)
- V. Small Shared Domestic Water System (Private):** Serves 2 through 4 connections with less than 25 yearlong residents, and any number of nonresident individuals less than 60 days per year. (Plan check fee required)
- VI. Individual Water System (Private):** A domestic water system with 1 water connection, and having fewer than 25 residents or nonresident individuals being served water. A well drilling construction permit is required, bacteriological and chemical tests are recommended, a minimum 4 to 24 hour pump test may be required to be submitted to Environmental Health Services before a building permit to construct a single family dwelling unit is issued by the Planning Department.

NOTE: Applicable laws and standards regulating public water systems are available upon request. All specifications shall conform to the California Safe Drinking Water Act, Title 22, and related laws.

Listed below are the requirements for establishing a public and/or private shared small water system for proposed or existing land development.

A. Application for Domestic Public Water Supply Permit

Application and data forms are available at the office of the County Public Health Department, Environmental Health Services. After review of the application data and a registered civil Engineer detail plan of the water system design, and if all data is found to be correct, subject to the approval of the County Public Works Department, and the system is free of defects, a water supply permit will be granted by the Health Officer. A copy of the application, permit and data forms will be returned to the applicant.

B. Legal Water Well Agreement

(Applicable only to well(s) or water source(s) serving more than one legal parcel of land).

It will be necessary to form a mutual water company, private water company or a water association and provide this office with a legal written "Water Well Agreement" signed by all parties outlining the use, allocated water use of ownership, maintenance, and other particulars relating to the water well, storage and distribution system.

The written water well agreement shall include at least the following:

1. The owner or joint owners of the property on which the well is located shall designate a responsible person for the operation and maintenance of the water system.
2. Each owner shall be responsible for the piping systems serving their respective properties.
3. The use of the well shall be limited to the designated parcels, single-family residences, plus normal land irrigation associated with residential use. (Meters are recommended)
4. Provisions to implement the Emergency Notification Plan to customers as required under Section 4029, California Health and Safety Code when said water purveyor is notified that the quality of domestic water fails to comply with the drinking water standards of the State Department of Health Services.
5. A map showing all easements where waterlines cross property lines, 200' sewage disposal system well setbacks, etc. shall be filed with the County Recorder and a copy submitted to the Health Department and respective property owners.
6. The agreement shall be reviewed and approved by the applicant's attorney and shall run with the land.

C. Maps, Plot Plans and Reports

1. Plot locations of well, indicating property boundaries; all sources of possible contamination including sewers, sewage disposal systems, flood plains, feed lots, animal pastures, etc. in or proposed within 300 feet of the well. No standard sewage disposal systems shall be located within at least 200 feet of the well(s). Animal or fowl enclosures must be kept at least 100 feet from the well(s). All distribution lines and water line easements shall be shown on the map.
2. Show means of protecting well sites by restrictions placed on surrounding properties to prevent future location of possible sources of contamination. THE DEPTH OF THE ANNULAR SEAL ON COMMUNITY SUPPLY WELLS SHALL BE A MINIMUM OF 50 FEET IN DEPTH. An existing seal of less than 50 feet shall require approved mechanical chlorination.
3. Submit a well driller's report, indicating the log of each well and plan of the well construction indicating the depth of the annular seal, type of casing, perforations, sampling tap and treatment pipe for disinfection of the well, etc.

D. Adequacy, Sizing and Potability Requirements

1. Design and sizing of the system will be required to be certified by a registered civil engineer in accordance with California Code of Regulations, Title 22. Source requirements for Title 22 include domestic use only and increased storage and source supplies must be considered for fire flow. For all newly created land divisions or existing paper subdivisions of 5 or more parcels, this system shall also be sized to standards as specified by the County Public Works for fire flows.
2. Submit a pump test indicating production of the well in gallons per minute. The duration of the test shall be a minimum of 72 hours. For systems of less than 5 service connections adequacy may be determined by a minimum 12-hour pump test. The production test shall be performed by a certified pump tester or licensed well driller. Production data shall be recorded in gallons per minute. Drawdown data shall be submitted with production data. The capacity of the well shall be based on the sustained yield of the well or pump output, whichever is less. The conditions of a pump test used to determine sustained yield of a well(s) shall be acceptable to the County Health Officer and County Public Works and shall include:
 - a. Constant rate of water discharge from the well during the pump test.
 - b. Continuation of the pump test until at least 4 consecutive measurements of the water level drawdown in the well and the elapsed time since the beginning of the pump test yield a straight line when the drawdown is plotted against the logarithm of the elapsed time.

For community water systems, a registered civil engineer experienced in the field of hydrology, a registered geologist or a registered engineering geologist shall certify that the aquifer(s) being tapped by all sources will provide an adequate quantity of water (based on parcel size) from the source(s).

3. Testing: A laboratory certified by the State Department of Health Services shall conduct all water quality analysis. Each source supplying domestic water shall be tested.
 - a. Community water systems. Submit a complete primary standards inorganic chemical, radioactivity, and volatile organic chemical analysis. The synthetic organic chemicals: Atrazine, dibromochloropropane (DBCP), ethylene dibromide (EDB), and simazine are required.
 - b. Nontransient-Noncommunity systems. Submit a complete primary standards inorganic chemical, radioactivity, and volatile organic chemical analysis. The synthetic organic chemicals: Atrazine, dibromochloropropane (DBCP), ethylene dibromide (EDB), and simazine are required.
 - c. Transient-Noncommunity systems. Submit a complete primary standard inorganic chemical analysis. Volatile and synthetic organic tests may be required if the sources are vulnerable to contamination.
 - d. State small water systems. Submit a general inorganic chemical analysis listed in Section 64435(a), a general mineral and general physical analysis. Volatile and synthetic organic tests may be required if the sources are vulnerable to contamination.
 - e. Shared water systems submit a complete general mineral analysis of each well source to include nitrates and fluorides, or for any chemical suspected to be present or as required by this Department and State Law.
4. Submit a bacteriological analysis of each water source from the proposed system. The County Public Health Department has facilities to run the test or contact a private approved laboratory. The County Public Health Department does not have laboratory facilities for chemical analysis.

E. Storage and Distribution Data:

1. Submit detailed plans regarding storage, including materials of tanks and reservoirs, and their capacities. List materials, sizes, etc. Construction shall be approved by the County Environmental Health Services and the County Public Works Department for newly created subdivisions, parcel maps or existing paper subdivisions prior to construction of the water system.

Land division water systems shall be in accordance with the County Public Works Department standard improvement specifications and drawings, certified by a registered civil engineer and approved by the Public Works and Environmental Health Departments. Construction performance bonds may be acceptable, subject to the approval of Public Works and Environmental Health Services.

If there are questions, please contact San Luis Obispo County Environmental Health Services at 781-5544.